What is claimed is

1. An ophthalmic device comprising a polymer and ionized silver in an initial concentration of at least about 10 ppm, wherein said ophthalmic device has a haze of less than about 200% and said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at rate with a rate constant, calculated using a first order kinetics equation, of up to about 1 $days^{-1}$.

2. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about 0.001 and about 0.5 $days^{-1}$.

3. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about 0.01 and about 0.3 $days^{-1}$.

4. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said rate constant is between about 0.001 and about 0.2 $days^{-1}$.

5. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration is between about 10 and about 10,000 ppm.

6. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration is between about 25 and about 5,000 ppm.

7. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration is between about 50 and about 3,000 ppm.

8. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.

9. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens.

10. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said initial silver concentration and rate constant are maintained below amounts which would cause argyria.

11. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein after about a day said silver releases from said ophthalmic device during use at a rate with a rate constant , calculated using a first order kinetics equation of up to about 1 day^{-1}.

12. The contact lens of claim 9 is substantially free from visible haze.

13. The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 150% haze.

14. The contact lens of claim 9 having less than 100% haze.

15. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer further comprises a ligand to which said silver is releasably bound.

16. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is a contact lens and said initial silver concentration and rate constant are sufficient to provide an at least about 50% reduction in microbial activity over said device's use.

17. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 14 days.

18. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said use is continuous wear for at least 30 days.

19. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 70% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.

20. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silver releases from said contact lens during use in an amount sufficient to provide at least a 90% reduction in bacterial activity over said use.

21. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of about 25°C of about 2.0 x 10^{-30} moles/L to about 2 moles/L.

22. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said silver releasing compound has a molar solubility of silver ion in pure water of greater than about 2.0 x 10^{-17} moles/L.

23. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer comprises a silicone hydrogel.

24. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said silicone hydrogel is selected from the group consisting of senofilcon A, galyfilcon A, lotrafilcon A and balafilcon A.

25. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.

26. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.

27. The ophthalmic device of claim 1 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.

28. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said polymer is formed from a reaction mixture comprising at least one silicone-containing component.

29. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said reaction mixture further comprises at least one hydrophilic component.

30. The contact lens of claim 9 wherein said ophthalmic device is coated.

31. The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after two days.

32. The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after two days.

33. The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 2 log after 10 days.

34. The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 1 log after 10 days.

35. The contact lens of claim 9, wherein said lens displays a reduction in microbial colonization of at least about 05 log after 30 days.